

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections set forth in the Office Action of June 18, 2004, are earnestly solicited.

Claims 1—8, 10 and 12—13 have been amended to clarify Applicants' invention. These amendments are not believed to narrow the scope of the claimed invention. Claims 1—13 remain pending in the application.

The amendments to Claims 1 and 8 are believed to moot the rejection of Claims 1—13 under 35 U.S.C. 101. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1—13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (U.S. 6,470,324). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Brown et al. is directed to recommending which types of vehicles a dealer should order to obtain an ideal sales mix of vehicles based on a sampling of vehicle sales made in the dealer's local market during a predefined sales period. Brown et al. is silent as to generating an order recommendation based on a target fill rate or a target inventory level specified by the dealer. Brown et al. suggests no reception from the dealer of anything. The only computing platform taught by Brown et al. is a system used by the vehicle supplier alone. Claims 1—13 are therefore believed to be patentable over Brown et al.

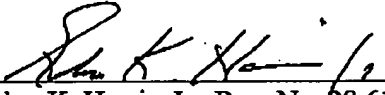
Claims 1—8, 10 and 12—13, as amended herein, and Claims 9 and 11, as originally submitted, are believed to be in condition for allowance, early acknowledgment of which is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:

September 16, 2004

By:


Gordon K. Harris, Jr., Reg. No. 28,615
HARNES, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

Attorney for Applicants

Ralph E. Smith
CIMS 483-02-19
DaimlerChrysler Intellectual Capital Corporation
DaimlerChrysler Technology Center
800 Chrysler Drive
Auburn Hills, MI 48326-2757
248-944-6519